

Message Text

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ORIGIN DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 MMO-01 ACDA-12 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-02
TRSE-00 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 IO-14 JUSE-00 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02 OES-09 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-05
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12
NEA-10 /217 R

DRAFTED BY D/LOS:RCBLUMBERG:AFR

APPROVED BY D/LOS:ROBERT BLUMBERG

-----117220 280916Z /15

R 272053Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS

UNCLAS STATE 189988

E.O. 11652:N.A.

TAGS:PLOS

SUBJECT: DEEP SEABED MINING LEGISLATION

1. DEEP SEABED MINING LEGISLATION (H.R. 3350) PASSED
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JULY 26 WITH NEW NUMBER
H.R. 12988. VOTE WAS 312-80. SENATE BILL (S. 2053)
HAS PASSED SENATE ENERGY COMMITTEE AND IS CURRENTLY
PENDING BEFORE COMMERCE COMMITTEE. IT IS EXPECTED THAT
COMMERCE COMMITTEE WILL REPORT BILL WITHIN TWO WEEKS.
IT MUST THEN BE HEARD BY FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE
BEFORE IT CAN BE PASSED BY SENATE. IT IS POSSIBLE
(ALTHOUGH UNLIKELY) THAT LEGISLATION COULD BE PASSED
AND SENT TO THE PRESIDENT DURING 95TH CONGRESS WHICH IS
EXPECTED TO ADJOURN BY EARLY OCTOBER, BUT DEFINITELY
NOTPRIOR TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF
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LOS CONFERENCE ON SEPTEMBER 15.

2. IN RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS
ABOUT MINING LEGISLATION THE FOLLOWING POINTS SHOULD
BE STRESSED.

--EVENTUAL PASSAGE OF DEEP SEABED MINING LEGISLATION

DOES NOT LESSEN OUR COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVING A COMPREHEN-

SIVE LOS TREATY. HOWEVER, IT WOULD DEMONSTRATE THAT
THE U.S. IS PREPARED TO PROCEED WITH DEEP SEABED MINING
IN THE EVENT WE ARE UNABLE TO ACHIEVE A TREATY.

--H.R. 12988: IS INTERIM IN NATURE; THAT IS, IT WOULD
BE SUPERSEDED BY A LOS TREATY.

--IT CONTAINS PROVISIONS FOR SHARING REVENUES FROM DEEP
SEABED MINING WITH LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THIS,
WE BELIEVE, GIVES MEANING TO THE PRINCIPLE OF THE
COMMON HERITAGE OF MANKIND.

--IT PROCEEDS ON THE LEGAL BASIS THAT DEEP SEABED
MINING IS A FREEDOM OF THE HIGH SEAS. HOWEVER IT
DOES NOT ASSERT SOVEREIGNTY OVER ANY SPECIFIC AREA
OF THE HIGH SEAS OR DEEP SEABED. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 27 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1864261
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEEP SEABED MINING LEGISLATION
TAGS: PLOS
To: ALL POSTS
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ba24d76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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